

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

Claim 39 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. In this regard, the Examiner expressed that the recitation of to what the dynamic range of claim 39 corresponds constitutes new matter. Specifically, the Examiner took the position that the dynamic range “corresponding to a voltage transmitted as indication of contact with the glass touch panel” finds no support in the original specification. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

While the above-quoted language is not in the original disclosure, it is respectfully submitted that with regard to glass touch panels of the type described in the instant application, this recitation as to what the dynamic range corresponds is an art recognized definition known at the time of filing of this application. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the definition of the dynamic range as recited in claim 39 does not constitute new matter, whereby the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, rejection should not be maintained.

Irrespective of the above, Applicants would be willing to delete from claim 39 the phrase “, with said dynamic range... glass touch panel” if the removal of such a phrase would not result in the Examiner rejecting this claim under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, in a manner analogous to that by which claim 19 was rejected in the initial Office Action dated November 5, 2003.

Claim 39 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner expressed that with regard to claim 39 it is unclear as to whether the phrase “lower limit of from 0 to 0.7 V” means that the lower limit is somewhere within the tolerance range of 0 to 0.7 V or whether it means that the signal, when low, will vary between 0 and 0.7 V. A similar position was taken with regard to the phrase “upper limit of from 5 to 4.6 V”. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 39 clearly recites a range having an upper limit and a lower limit. Thus, the range is defined by two limits. The claim allows each of these limits to vary to some extent. Accordingly, from claim 39 it is believed to be clear that the phrase “lower limit of from 0 to 0.7 V” means that the lower limit is somewhere within the tolerance range of 0 to 0.7 V, and that the phrase “upper limit

of from 5 to 4.6 V” means that the upper limit is somewhere within the tolerance range of 5 to 4.6 V. Thus, claim 39 is believed to be clear with regard to what is intended thereby and in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph; however, if the Examiner believes that claim 39 can be amended to make it more clear, then such a suggestion would be greatly appreciated.

Claims 21, 27-31, 33-36 and 38-40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato in view of Nishijima et al. Claim 22 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato in view of Nishijima et al., and further in view of Iwanaga et al. Claim 23 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato in view of Nishijima et al., and further in view of Rainer. Claim 24 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato in view of Nishijima et al., and further in view of Kent et al. Claim 25 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato in view of Nishijima et al. and Kent et al., and further in view of Swift et al. Claim 26 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato in view of Nishijima et al., Kent et al., and Swift et al., and further in view of “Paste for electronic materials”. Claim 32 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato in view of Nishijima et al., and further in view of Maeda et al. And, claim 37 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato in view of Nishijima et al., and further in view of Tannas, Jr. These rejections are respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Each of the rejections issued by the Examiner is based upon Nishijima et al. disclosing an adhesive mixed with hygroscopic particles. However, nowhere in Nishijima et al. are hygroscopic particles discussed or disclosed, let alone discussed or disclosed to be mixed with an adhesive. In this regard, the only particles disclosed in Nishijima et al. are “conductive” particles, and not hygroscopic particles. Accordingly, assuming *arguendo* that the moisture sensing resistive substance 6 of Nishijima et al. can be said to be an adhesive, this substance is mixed with conductive particles and not hygroscopic particles. See column 6, lines 43-47, for example.

Thus, because claim 21 recites **an adhesive in which fine particles having hygroscopic features are mixed**, and because the only particles mixed with the resistive substance 6 of Nishijima et al. are disclosed to be conductive particles, it is respectfully submitted that Sato when modified in view of Nishijima et al. would not result in the invention as recited in claim 21. None of the other

references resolve this deficiency of Nishijima et al., and accordingly, claim 21 is allowable over any possible combination of references relied upon by the Examiner.

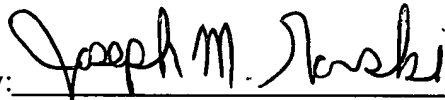
If the Examiner continues to reject claim 21 as being obvious over a combination of Sato and Nishijima et al., then the Examiner is requested to specifically explain how it is being determined that Nishijima et al. discloses or suggests hygroscopic particles mixed with an adhesive.

In view of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If after reviewing this Request, the Examiner believes that any issues remain which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative by telephone to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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